

Subpart A—Outer Continental Shelf Oil, Gas, and Sulphur Management, General

§ 256.0 Authority for information collection.

(a) The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved the information collection requirements in this part under 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.* OMB assigned the control number 1010-0006. The title of this information collection is “30 CFR part 256, Leasing of Sulphur or Oil and Gas in the Outer Continental Shelf.”

(b) MMS collects this information to determine if the applicant filing for a lease on the Outer Continental Shelf is qualified to hold such a lease. Response is required to obtain a benefit according to 43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.* MMS will protect proprietary information collected according to section 26 of the OCS Lands Act and 30 CFR 256.10.

(c) An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

(d) Send comments regarding any aspect of the collection of information under this part, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, Minerals Management Service, Mail Stop 5438, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240.

[65 FR 2876, Jan. 19, 2000, as amended at 74 FR 46909, Sept. 14, 2009]

§ 256.1 Purpose.

The purpose of the regulations in this part is to establish the procedures under which the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) will exercise the authority to administer a leasing program for oil, gas and sulphur. The procedures under which the Secretary will exercise the authority to administer a program to grant rights-of-way, rights-of-use and easements are addressed in other parts.

[64 FR 72795, Dec. 28, 1999]

§ 256.2 Policy.

The management of Outer Continental Shelf resources is to be conducted in accordance with the findings,

purposes and policy directions provided by the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act Amendments of 1978 (43 U.S.C. 1332, 1801, 1802), and other Executive, legislative, judicial and Departmental guidance. The Secretary of the Interior shall consider available environmental information in making decisions affecting Outer Continental Shelf resources.

§ 256.4 Authority.

The outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA) (43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*) authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to issue, on a competitive basis, leases for oil and gas, and sulphur, in submerged lands of the outer Continental Shelf (OCS). The Act authorizes the Secretary to grant rights-of-way, rights-of-use and easements through the submerged lands of the OCS. The Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6213), prohibits joint bidding by major oil and gas producers.

[64 FR 72795, Dec. 28, 1999]

§ 256.5 Definitions.

As used in this part, the term:

(a) *Act* refers to the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act of August 7, 1953 (43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*) as amended.

(b) *Director* means the Director, Minerals Management Service.

(c) *OCS* means the Outer Continental Shelf, as that term is defined in 43 U.S.C. 1331(a).

(d) *Secretary* means the Secretary of the Interior or an official authorized to act on the Secretary's behalf.

(e) *MMS* means the Minerals Management Service.

(f) *Coastal zone* means the coastal waters (including the lands therein and thereunder) and the adjacent shorelands (including the waters therein and thereunder), strongly influenced by each other and in proximity to the shorelines of the several coastal States, and includes islands, transition and intertidal areas, salt marshes, wetlands, and beaches, which zone extends seaward to the outer limit of the United States territorial sea and extends inland from the shore lines to the extent necessary to control shorelands, the uses of which have a direct and significant impact on the coastal waters, and the inward boundaries of which